

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**



Applicant: Jim Freid, *et al.*

Serial No.: 10/735,976

Filed: December 15, 2003

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR  
STABILIZING THE HUMAN SPINE  
WITH A BONE PLATE

Examiner: Philogene, Pedro

Group Art Unit: 3732

Case No.: 5259-03700USC2

Express Mail Label No.: EV 641878412 US

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail Post Office to Addressee Service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 addressed to:

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on:

Date of Deposit: March 2, 2007

*Karen R. Smith* 3/2/07  
Karen R. Smith Date

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits under 37 CFR § 1.97(b).

Applicants submit herewith Form PTO 1449 listing the references cited in this Information Disclosure Statement. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner (1) initial each reference listed on the enclosed Form PTO 1449 indicating that the Examiner has considered and made those references of record in this application and (2) return a copy of the initialed Form PTO 1449 to Applicants. Copies of the cited references were previously submitted in either U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/479,458, filed January 6, 2000, or U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/015,206, filed on November 18, 2001. The aforementioned earlier applications are relied on for benefit of an earlier, patent application filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120.

No charge is required for the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (b). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 concerning this transmission, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-0025.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Freid, *et al.*

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael L. Woods", is written over a horizontal line.

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## Form PTO - 1449 (Modified)

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

SERIAL NO.

5259-03700USC2

10/735,976

APPLICANT

J. Freid, et al.

FILING DATE

GROUP

December 15, 2003

3733

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

(37 CFR 1.98 (b))

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER							ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE
	A1	4	1	2	4	2	3	5	11/1978	Grahl et al			
	A2	4	3	8	8	9	2	1	6/1983	Sutter et al			
	A3	4	4	0	1	1	1	2	8/1983	Rezaian			
	A4	4	4	3	3	6	7	7	2/1984	Ulrich et al.			
	A5	4	4	9	2	2	2	6	1/1985	Belykh et al.			
	A6	4	5	0	1	2	6	9	2/1985	Bagby			
	A7	4	5	0	3	8	4	8	3/1985	Caspar et al.			
	A8	4	5	7	0	6	1	8	2/1986	Wu			
	A9	4	6	0	4	9	9	5	8/1986	Stephens et al.			
	A10	4	6	4	1	6	3	6	2/1987	Cotrel			

## US PUBLISHED APPLICATIONS

(Note: Applicant is not required to submit a paper copy of cited US Published Applications)

EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER							PUB. DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE

## FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION

		DOCUMENT NUMBER							PUBLI- CATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANS- LATION	
													YES	NO
	B1	8	8	0	3	7	8	1	6/1988	WO				
	B2	0	5	7	8	3	2	0	1/1994	EP				
	B3	0	7	7	8	0	0	7	6/1997	EP				
	B4	9	8	1	4	1	4	2	4/1998	WO				
	B5	2	7	3	2	8	8	7	10/1996	FR				

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication)


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(Form PTO-1449)

## Form PTO - 1449 (Modified)

<b>FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE</b> <b>(Modified) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b> <b>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <b>(Use several sheets if necessary)</b>  <b>(37 CFR 1.98 (b))</b>	<b>ATTY. DOCKET NO.</b> <b>5259-03700USC2</b>	<b>SERIAL NO.</b> <b>10/735,976</b>
	<b>APPLICANT</b> <b>J. Freid, et al.</b>	
	<b>FILING DATE</b> <b>December 15, 2003</b>	<b>GROUP</b> <b>3733</b>

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[illegible]

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